IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with <u>underlining</u> and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please AMEND claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 16 and 18 in accordance with the following:

1.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A yield percentage managing method for managing a yield percentage of a target processed product with respect to at least one target raw material by use of a computer, comprising:

<u>measuring the target processed product which is processed from the target raw material to obtain measurement information;</u>

<u>obtaining a processed amount K which indicates a total number or weight of target items of the target processed product based on the measurement information; and</u>

correcting or updating the yield percentage <u>of the target processed product with respect to the target raw material</u> based on a <u>the</u> processed amount K ~~which indicates a total number or weight of target items of the target processed product processed from the target raw material~~.

2.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The yield percentage managing method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

~~a step~~ to ~~obtain~~ <u>obtaining</u> an amount of the yield percentage to be corrected or updated, based on an initial value of the yield percentage and the processed amount K.

3.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) ~~The~~ <u>A</u> yield percentage managing method ~~as claimed in claim 1~~ <u>for managing a yield percentage of a target processed product with respect to at least one target raw material by use of a computer</u>, comprising:

<u>correcting or updating to correct or update the yield percentage based on a processed amount K which indicates a total number or weight of target items of the target processed product, processed from the target raw material;</u>

<u>performing</u> a first calculation ~~step to calculate~~ <u>of</u> an amount P of the target raw material used during a present term<u>,</u> from P = M + N - L, where M denotes an amount of initial stock of the target raw material, N denotes a buying amount of the target raw material, and L denotes an amount of final stock of the target raw material;<u> and</u>

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performing a second calculation ~~step to calculate~~ of a theoretical value Q of the amount of the target raw material used during the present term, from Q = K/Yr, using the processed amount K and an initial value Yr of the yield percentage the target product, ~~; and~~

~~a correction step to obtain~~ wherein the correcting or updating obtains a compared result by comparing the amount P of the target raw material used and the theoretical value Q, ~~and~~ to automatically correct or update the initial value Yr depending on an error of the compared result.

4.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The yield percentage managing method as claimed in claim 3, wherein said correcting or updating ~~correction step~~ monitors a ratio P/Q of the amount P of the target raw material used and the theoretical value Q, and corrects or updates the initial value Yr (%) so as to satisfy a condition (100% - d%) < (P/Q) < (100% + d%) of a tolerable range if the ratio P/Q does not satisfy the condition, where d% denotes a tolerance index.

5.   (CANCELLED)

6.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A yield percentage managing apparatus for managing a yield percentage of a target processed product with respect to at least one target raw material by use of a computer, comprising:

an input part configured to receive measurement information from a measuring apparatus that measures the target processed product, which is processed from the target raw material, and a processed amount K, which indicates a total number or weight of target items of the target processed product, based on the measurement information; and

a control unit to correct or update the yield percentage of the target processed product with respect to the target raw material based on ~~a~~ the processed amount K ~~which indicates a total number or weight of target items of the target processed product processed from the target raw material~~.

7.   (ORIGINAL) The yield percentage managing apparatus as claimed in claim 6, wherein said control unit includes means for obtaining an amount of the yield percentage to be corrected or updated, based on an initial value of the yield percentage and the processed amount K.

8.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) ~~The~~ A yield percentage managing apparatus ~~as~~ ~~claimed in claim 6,~~ managing a yield percentage of a target processed product with respect to at least one target raw material by use of a computer, comprising:

a control unit to correct or update the yield percentage based on a processed amount K which indicates a total number or weight of target items of the target processed product processed from the target raw material;

a first calculation unit to calculate an amount P of the target raw material used during a present term from $P = M + N - L$, where M denotes an amount of initial stock of the target raw material, N denotes a buying amount of the target raw material, and L denotes an amount of final stock of the target raw material; and

a second calculation unit to calculate a theoretical value Q of the amount of the target raw material used during the present term from $Q = K/Yr$, using the processed amount K and an initial value Yr of the yield percentage of the target product,

wherein said control unit includes a correction ~~means for obtaining~~ part configured to obtain a compared result by comparing the amount P of the target raw material used and the theoretical value Q, and for automatically correcting or updating the initial value Yr depending on an error of the compared result.

9.   (ORIGINAL) The yield percentage managing apparatus as claimed in claim 8, wherein said correction means monitors a ratio P/Q of the amount P of the target raw material used and the theoretical value Q, and corrects or updates the initial value Yr (%) so as to satisfy a condition $(100\% - d\%) < (P/Q) < (100\% + d\%)$ of a tolerable range if the ratio P/Q does not satisfy the condition, where d% denotes a tolerance index.

10.   (CANCELLED)

11.   (CANCELLED)

12.   (CANCELLED)

13.   (CANCELLED)

14.   (CANCELLED)

15.   (CANCELLED)

16.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer-readable storage medium which stores a program for causing a computer to manage a yield percentage of a target processed product with respect to a target raw material, said program comprising:

an input procedure causing the computer to receive measurement information from a measuring apparatus that measures the target processed product which is processed from the target raw material, and a processed among K which indicates a total number or weight of target items of the target processed product, based on the measurement information; and

a procedure causing the computer to correct or update the yield percentage of the target processed product with respect to the target raw material, based on a the processed amount K which indicates a total number or weight of target items of the target processed product processed from the target raw material.

17.   (ORIGINAL) The computer-readable storage medium as claimed in claim 16, wherein said program further comprises:

a procedure causing the computer to obtain an amount of the yield percentage to be corrected or updated, based on an initial value of the yield percentage and the processed amount K.

18.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The A computer-readable storage medium as claimed in claim 16, wherein said program comprises:which stores a program for causing a computer to manage a yield percentage of a target processed product with respect to a target raw material, said program comprising:

a correcting or updating procedure causing the computer to correct or update the yield percentage based on a processed amount K which indicates a total number or weight of target items of the target processed product, processed from the target raw material;

a first calculation procedure causing the computer to calculate an amount P of the target raw material used during a present term from P = M + N - L, where M denotes an amount of initial stock of the target raw material, N denotes a buying amount of the target raw material, and L denotes an amount of final stock of the target raw material;

a second calculation procedure causing the computer to calculate a theoretical value Q of the amount of the target raw material used during the present term from Q = K/Yr, using the

processed amount K and an initial value Yr of the yield percentage the target product; and

~~a correction procedure causing~~ the correcting or updating procedure causes the computer to obtain a compared result by comparing the amount P of the target raw material used and the theoretical value Q, and to automatically correct or update the initial value Yr depending on an error of the compared result.

19.   (ORIGINAL) The computer-readable storage medium as claimed in claim 18, wherein said correction procedure causes the computer to monitor a ratio P/Q of the amount P of the target raw material used and the theoretical value Q, and to correct or update the initial value Yr (%) so as to satisfy a condition (100% - d%) < (P/Q) < (100% + d%) of a tolerable range if the ratio P/Q does not satisfy the condition, where d% denotes a tolerance index.

20.   (CANCELLED)